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MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL DEBATES

NINETEENTH SESSION OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL UNDER THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA.

8th 9th and 11th to 16th December 1961.

Volume XLV (Nos. 1 to 8).

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Groundnut plants

* 408 *Q*.—SRI T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Home be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any report has been received from the Collector of Madurai in November 1960 that damage has been caused by caterpillars to groundnut plants in Dindigul and Usilampatti taluks; and

(*b*) if so, the extent of damage caused?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (*a*) Yes, Sir.

(*b*) An extent of 23,733 acres was affected by Red-Hairy Caterpillars in Dindigul taluk and Usilampatti sub-taluk.

SRI T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN : Is it a recurring annual feature in Dindigul?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : I can't say it is definitely recurring and definitely annual. Sometimes crops are affected by these pests.

SRI T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN : Has any investigation been made to find out why certain parts alone are affected by caterpillars while certain other parts are not affected even though groundnut is grown there also?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : It depends on the adequacy of rains and surroundings. Of course, preventive action is being taken.

Hindi

3-10 p.m. * 409 *Q*.—DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any communication from the Government of India about the introduction of Hindi for purposes of Central Government Services examinations;

(*b*) if so, to place a copy of the communication on the table of the House?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : (*a*) No, Sir.

(*b*) Does not arise.

DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Is it not a fact that South Indians are placed at a disadvantage when they appear for the Central Public Service Commission examinations when they have to pass an examination in Hindi also? Marks are allotted for knowledge of Hindi also.

THE HON. SRI C SUBRAMANIAM : The present practice is to have two papers in languages, one in Hindi and the other in any modern Indian language. But as far as the paper in Hindi is concerned, it is only optional and it has not been converted into an element of competition.

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SRI T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN : Is it a fact that the Central Government give preference to students who study Hindi in the High Schools in the matter of selection and appointment?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : No, Sir. Now the idea is that they should learn the Hindi language also and they can learn after they are recruited to the service. But those who have passed the Hindi examination at the time of the competition, need not pass it afterwards. That is all.

DR. A. LAKSHMANASWAMI MUDALIAR : Is the Hon. Minister aware that recently an announcement was made in the Press that the Central Public Service Commission was going to conduct their examinations both in Hindi and in English?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : That proposal has been given up. English will continue to be the medium of examination.

Special casual leave

* 410 *Q.*—SRI T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether there is any proposal to extend the special casual leave allowed to Government servants participating in International Sports to College students in receipt of Government Scholarship?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : No, Sir.

SRI T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN : Has it been brought to the notice of the Government by College students who participated in inter-collegiate sports that when they exceeded the usual casual leave of fifteen days, their scholarship is cut off?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : I have not received any representation to that effect.

Food articles

* 411 *Q.*—DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state the steps, if any, taken to prevent exposure of food articles intended for sale on the pavements and roadside?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : In the City, periodical raids are conducted under the supervision of the Divisional Sanitary Inspectors to prevent the sale of food articles exposed to dust and flies on the pavements and roadside.

In the mofussil, the Health Officers take necessary action against the offenders under section 108 of the Madras Public Health Act.

DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Is it not a fact, Sir, that even to-day in all the streets of Madras articles of food are being exposed to the weather, flies, dust, etc., and is it not a fact that the Corporation has not strictly enforced the rules?